WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for detecting purchasing card fraud during all phases of a purchasing card life cycle, the method comprising:

obtaining contact event information from a client during a contact event;

comparing the contact event information with information stored in a database; and

sending a fraud alert to a client in real time for communicating to the client that a fraud match has occurred.

2. A method of claim 1 wherein obtaining contact event information further comprises obtaining a customer's name, a customer's social security number, customer's address, and a customer's fraud history.

3. A method of claim 1 wherein comparing contact event information with a fraud database further comprises comparing contact event information with a fraud database having a plurality of fraud information sources.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining contact event information further comprises obtaining contact event information during a purchasing card application process.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining contact event information further comprises obtaining contact event information during a purchasing card activation process.

1   6.   The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining contact event

2   information further comprises obtaining contact event information during a

3   purchasing card mail order transaction from a retail participant.

1   7.   The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining contact event

2   information further comprises obtaining contact event information during a

3   purchasing card phone order transaction.

1   8.   A method of claim 1 wherein obtaining contact event

2   information further comprises obtaining contact event information during an address

3   change process.

1   9.   The method of claim 1 wherein sending an alert further

2   comprises sending an account record to an online queue to be monitored by the

3   client.

1   10.   The method of claim 9 wherein sending an account record

2   further comprises suspending the contact event until a manual follow-up is

3   completed.

1   11.   The method of claim 1 further comprising scoring the fraud

2   match to assist in the fraud determination process.

12.   The method of claim 11 wherein the scoring further comprises predicting a likelihood of a fraudulent takeover of a cardholder account.

1   13.   The method of claim 1 further comprising suspending
2   purchasing card generation when a fraud match occurs.

3   14.   A system for detecting purchasing card fraud during all phases
4   of a purchasing card life cycle, the system comprising:
5   a computer database for receiving contact event information from a
6   client;
7   computer software in communication with the computer database for
8   comparing the contact event information with information stored in the database; and
9   a communication network for sending a fraud alert to a client in real
10   time for informing the client that a fraud match has occurred.

1   15.   A system of claim 14 wherein the contact event information
2   further comprises a customer's name, a customer's social security number,
3   customer's address, and a customer's fraud history.

1   16.   A system of claim 14 wherein the fraud database has a
2   plurality of fraud information sources.

1   17.   The system of claim 14 wherein the computer database
2   receives the contact event information during a purchasing card application process.

1   18.   The system of claim 14 wherein the computer database
2   receives the contact event information during a purchasing card activation process.

1   19.   The system of claim 14 wherein the computer database
2   receives the contact event information during a purchasing card mail order
3   transaction from a retail participant.

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1   20.   The system of claim 14 wherein the computer database
2   receives the contact event information during a purchasing card phone order
3   transaction.

     21.   The system of claim 14 wherein the computer database
receives the contact event information during an address change process.

     22.   The system of claim 14 wherein the fraud alert is an account
record which is sent to an online queue monitored by a client.

1   23.   The system of claim 22 wherein sending an account record
2   further comprises suspending the contact event until a manual follow-up is
3   completed.

     24.   The system of claim 14 further comprising scoring the fraud
match to assist in the fraud determination process.

1   25.   The system of claim 24 wherein the scoring the fraud match
2   further comprises predicting a likelihood of a fraudulent takeover of a cardholder
3   account.

4   26.   The system of claim 14 wherein purchasing card generation
5   is suspended when a fraud match occurs.